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10/599,151	09/21/2006	Masaki Yanagioka	Q97138	5036
23373 7590 04/13/2010 SUGHRUE MION, PLLC 2100 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W. SUITE 800 WASHINGTON, DC 20037				
EXAMINER				
USELDING, JOHNE				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
1796				
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 3/30/2010 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

The declaration under 37 CFR 1.132 filed 3/30/2010, even if it were entered is insufficient to overcome the rejection as set forth in the last Office action because: Applicant has used a different reactor for making the carbon black than was used in Sakakibara. Sakakibara consider their reactor to be critical in producing their carbon black. In their comparative examples the reactor was altered to show the beneficial results provided using their reactor (see figures 3 and 4).

The Applicant has stated that Sakakibara does not disclose or suggest the effects of hydrogen desorption ratio and the toluene tinting permeability of carbon black on the wear resistance and low heat buildup. These tests are used to determine the physical properties of the carbon black. Sakakibara teaches several types of tests that are used to determine the physical properties of the carbon black (column 3, line 49 to column 5, lines 32). Sakakibara teaches optimizing the properties that underlie the tests, which is the size, shape, and surface properties of the carbon black (column 3, line 50 to column 4, line 62) to obtain good wear resistance (abrasion resistance) and heat build up (represented by $\tan \delta$) of tire tread (column 10, lines 7-25). Since Sakakibara provides teaching and motivation that the physical properties of the carbon black have an effect on good wear resistance and heat build up. They would be motivated to optimize the properties for good wear resistance and heat build up. Just because Sakakibara did not perform the same test on their carbon black does not mean

they did not recognize that that particular physical property that the test measures is important for obtaining good wear resistance and heat build up.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John Uselding whose telephone number is (571)270-5463. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 6:00am-4:30pm EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Milton Cano can be reached on 571-272-1398. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Milton I. Cano/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1796

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Examiner
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